

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 097070
ORIGIN NODS-00

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 097070

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, XF, IS, LE, UNSC

SUBJECT: ISRAELI-LEBANESE CONTACTS

REF: JERUSALEM 1083 AND 1080

1. LET US TRY TO KEEP DISTRIBUTION OF MESSAGES ON POSSIBLE
DIRECT ISRAELI-LEBANESE CONTACTS AT SENIOR LEVEL TO THE
ADDRESSEES OF THIS MESSAGE.

2. FOR AMBASSADOR PARKER: WE BELIEVE YOU WILL HAVE TO
HAVE A FRANK DISCUSSION WITH BOUTROS ABOUT ISRAELI-
LEBANESE CONTACTS, AT A SENIOR LEVEL OR LOWER, UNDER UN
AUSPICES AT NAQOURA. WE BELIEVE THAT SIILASVUO'S PRESENCE

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AT SUCH A MEETING COULD CAST AN UMBRELLA OF DIMENSIONS
WIDE ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF THE POLITICAL FALLOUT. IF
BOUTROS OBJECTS TO KHOURY'S PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A
MEETING, OR SENSES THAT IT IS PREMATURE OR POLITICALLY
TOO RISKY, YOU SHOULD INVITE HIM TO CONSIDER BROACHING
SOME ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

3. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT WE ARE NOT MAKING SUCH A SUGGESTION LIGHTLY. WE BELIEVE LEBANON'S INTERESTS CAN BE BETTER PROTECTED IF LEBANESE REPRESENTATIVE HIMSELF CAN HEAR EXACTLY WHAT THE ISRAELIS MAY BE WANTING AND PUT TO THE

ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE THE LEBANESE POSITION. AS IT IS, THE ISRAELIS HAVE NO SOLID IDEA OF WHAT MAY BE POSSIBLE AND WHAT IS NOT AND THE U.S. AND UN CANNOT ACT EFFECTIVELY AS AN INTERMEDIARY. YOU CAN ASSURE BOUTROS THAT WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE PROBLEMS POSED BY THIS SUGGESTION FROM SIILASVUO, BUT WE BELIEVE IT HAS TO BE DEALT WITH.

4. BEIRUT 2130 JUST RECEIVED. WE ARE PLEASED YOU WILL RAISE ISSUE WITH BOUTROS, BUT BELIEVE YOU SHOULD KNOW OUR THINKING ABOVE.

5. FOR CONSUL GENERAL NEWLIN: YOU CAN SAY THAT WE HAVE INSTRUCTED PARKER TO SOUND OUT BOUTROS ON THE SIILASVUO PROPOSAL. SAY THAT, IF SUCH A MEETING MATERIALIZES, WE HOPE THAT SIILASVUO HIMSELF CAN BE PRESENT FOR AT LEAST PART OF THE SESSION, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT THE ISRAELIS WILL WANT TO INSIST ON PRIVATE SESSION.

CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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